launched under the aegis of Ministry of SSI and ARI in collaboration with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). The scheme *inter-alia* will cover loans upto Rs. 10 lakhs from the Banking Sector.

The scheme is likely to enhance flow of Credit to Small Scale Sector and help in overall growth of this sector including employment generation.

Interest Free loans to Co-operative Banks in Andhra Pradesh

2694. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to grant interest free loans to cooperative banks in Andhra Pradesh as requested by the State Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be granted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal to grant interest free loans to cooperative banks in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Computerisation of Banks in Meghalaya

2695. SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State :

(a) whether computerisation and internet services have been made in all branches of nationalised and rural banks in Meghalaya;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, by when the above facilities are likely to be provided in these banks; and

(d) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) :(a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that eight public sector banks have thirteen computerised branches in Meghalaya and they do not provide Internet services. The KA Bank Nongkyndong Ri Khasi Jaintia, the only rural bank functioning in Meghalaya, has reported that till date none of its banches are computerised.

(c) and (d) RBI has further reported that the public sector banks plan to computerise 11 more branches in Meghalaya during 2000-2001. KA Bank Nongkyndong Ri Khasi Jaintia has further reported that it is likely to computerise its Head Office within 2000-2001 and one of its branches during 2001-2002.

Loans to Industrial and Agricultural Sector in Meghalaya

2696. SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of loans provided by the nationalised banks to the industrial and agricultural sectors during the last three years and till date in Meghalaya;

(b) The details of applications pending for seeking loan from the banks during the last three years, till date;

(c) the reasons for not granting loans; and

(d) What steps are being taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) As per data Reported by reserve Bank of India (RBI), the number of accounts and amount outstanding by public sector banks in the State of Meghalaya to Industry and Agriculture Sector for the last three years ending March 1997, 1998 and 1999 (latest available) are as under :

(Amt. in Rs. Lakhs)

	1997		1998		1999	
	No. of A/Cs	Amount Outstanding	No. of A/Cs	Amount Outstanding	No. of A/Cs	Amount Outstanding
Agriculture	24857	2040	21297	1914	17479	1680
Industry	4732	1580	5519	2131	6005	5424

(b) The Data Reporting System of RBI does not generate information in the manner called for.

(c) and (d) The public sector banks extend credit to viable units in all areas including Meghalaya. The extension of credit depends upon variety of